

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/035,146

Applicant(s)

KURAHASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Tarifur R Chowdhury

2871

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 09/29/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-10 and 12-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All      b) ☐ Some\*      c) ☐ None      of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)          |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                     | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____             |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____               | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                             |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
|  | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-15 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. As to claim 1, the prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically the counter electrode is formed in a layer overlying the pixel electrode with a stacked insulating film interposed between the plurality of stripe-shaped counter electrodes and the transparent plane-shaped pixel electrode wherein the stacked insulating film being made of a stacked structure in which an insulating film including a part of a gate insulating film, an inorganic material and an organic material are stacked in that order.
4. As to claim 6, the prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically, the pixel electrode being formed on an insulating film including a part of a gate insulating film, and a counter voltage signal line being formed in a layer underlying the insulating film, the counter voltage signal line being connected to the counter voltage through a through-hole extended through the interposed film and the insulating film.
5. As to claim 7, the prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically, the plurality of counter electrodes being formed to extend approximately in parallel with drain signal line and include a counter electrode which is

superposed on the drain signal line and which has a central axis approximately coincident with a central axis of the drain signal line and is wider than the drain signal line.

6. As to claim 8, the prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically, the counter electrode being made of a plurality of electrodes which are formed on a second protective film made of organic material layer to cover the pixel electrode on the first protective film and which are disposed to be extended in one direction and to be juxtaposed in a direction transverse to the one direction.

7. As to claim 12, the prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically, the counter electrode is formed in a layer overlying the pixel electrode with an interposed film between the plurality of stripe-shaped counter electrodes and the transparent plane-shaped pixel electrode, wherein the interposed film is at least one of a protective film and an insulating film and wherein the interposed film include a stacked structure in which an inorganic material layer and the organic material layer are stacked in that order.

8. As to claim 15, the prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically, the counter electrode is formed in a layer overlying the pixel electrode with an interposed film between the plurality of stripe-shaped counter electrodes and the transparent plane-shaped pixel electrode, wherein the interposed film is at least one of

a protective film and an insulating film and wherein the interposed film includes a first protective film made of an inorganic material layer formed to cover the thin film transistor, and a second protective film made of the organic material layer to cover the pixel electrode of the first protective film.

9. US 201/0046027 (TAI) AND USPAT 6,005,648 disclose a liquid crystal display device having counter electrodes overlaying the pixel electrode with a film between them. Further, USPAT 6,469,765 and US 2001/0048498 (commonly assigned) disclose a liquid crystal display device wherein the common electrode is formed as a lower layer on a substrate and then an insulating film is formed on the common electrode and then the pixel electrode is formed on the insulating film. Similarly, US 2002/0149729 (commonly assigned) discloses a liquid crystal display device wherein an insulating film for reducing capacity is formed between the common signal electrode and the pixel electrode. However, all the prior art references cited alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

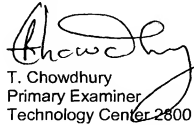
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R Chowdhury whose telephone number is (703) 308-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (703) 305-3492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.



T. Chowdhury  
Primary Examiner  
Technology Center 2800

TRC  
October 14, 2003